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**NEWS RELEASE**

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**NEWS RELEASE**

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**19 Arrested for DUI Over Weekend**  
***Checkpoint also yields guns and 7<sup>th</sup> offense DUI***

**Dover** - Delaware Law enforcement officers arrested 19 individuals for Driving Under the Influence (DUI) of alcohol over the weekend. This brings the total number of people arrested for DUI during the first month of the 2008 "Checkpoint Strikeforce" campaign to 96.

Three sobriety checkpoints were conducted last weekend (July 25 - 26). Participating agencies included the Delaware State Police Troop 2, the New Castle County DUI Task Force and the Laurel and Seaford Police Departments working jointly.

The New Castle County DUI Task Force's checkpoint on the Augustine Cutoff in Wilmington also yielded two guns and one of their arrests was for a 7<sup>th</sup> offense DUI according to the Task Force's leader. DSP Troop 2 arrested 7 for DUI at their checkpoint on Rt. 40 and, the Seaford/Laurel PD's joint checkpoint resulted in the arrest of 3 wanted individuals.

"We're grateful for the dedication of the officers who work these checkpoints," said OHS's Impaired Driving Program Coordinator Lisa Shaw. "They are not only accomplishing the primary goal of arresting DUI offenders and getting them off the streets before they can hurt themselves or someone else, but are also getting other dangerous individuals off our roadways."

Combining results from all three checkpoints, in addition to the weekend's 19 DUI arrests, officers issued two citations for underage drinking violations, apprehended 8 wanted individuals, made 13 drug arrests, 8 felony arrests, recovered 1 stolen vehicle and two weapons, and issued 6 seat belt citations and one child restraint citation. Officers also issued 112 citations for various other traffic violations.

For the coming weekend (August 1 – 2) four sobriety checkpoints are scheduled:

Friday August 1 – Newport (NcCo DUI Task Force)

Milford (Milford PD)

Saturday August 2 – Seaford (DSP Troop 5)

Clayton (Smyrna & Clayton PD joint checkpoint)

For weekly and ongoing campaign statistical updates please visit our website at [www.ohs.delaware.gov](http://www.ohs.delaware.gov) and click on the *Checkpoint Strikeforce* icon in the center of the page.

Now in its seventh year, “Checkpoint Strikeforce” is a multi-state crackdown on impaired drivers coordinated locally by the Delaware Office of Highway Safety. Participating law enforcement agencies are conducting weekly DUI checkpoints through New Year’s Eve, and monthly checkpoints in the spring, all with the goal of deterring impaired drivers and arresting DUI offenders.

“*Checkpoint Strikeforce*” is also one of the three major safety initiatives under the “120 Days of Summer HEAT” campaign targeting violators of Delaware’s traffic laws. Traffic deaths kill and injure Delawareans nearly twice as often as violent crimes.

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